Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2020

Supplementary data

Ultrahigh Electrocatalytic Activity with Trace Amount Platinum Loadings on Free-standing Mesoporous Titanium Nitride Nanotube Arrays for Hydrogen Evolution Reaction

Jiayang Zhao ^a #, Yan Zeng ^a #, Jiao Wang ^a, Qizhi Xu ^b, Rongsheng Chen ^{a,*}, Hongwei Ni ^a, Gary J. Cheng ^{c,*}

^a The State Key Laboratory of Refractories and Metallurgy, Institute of Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430081, China

E-mail addresses: chens@wust.edu.cn (R.S. Chen), gjcheng@purdue.edu (G.J. Cheng)

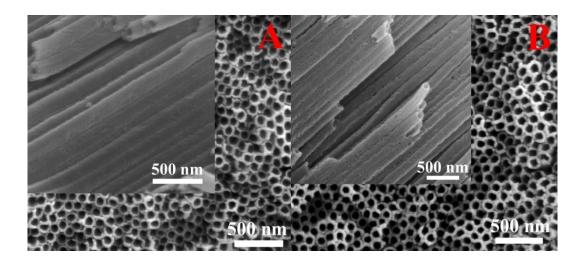
These authors contributed equally to this work.

^b Department of Chemistry, Columbia University, New York, New York 10027, United States

^c School of Industrial Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2023, United States

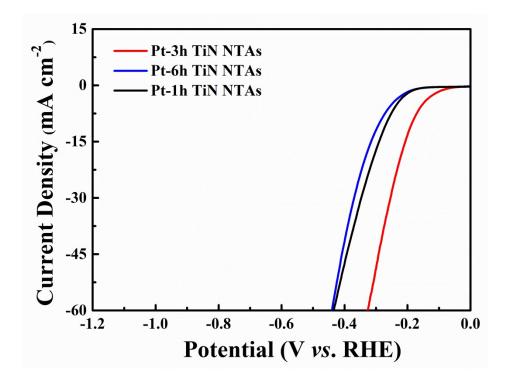
^{*} Corresponding authors.

Figure S1



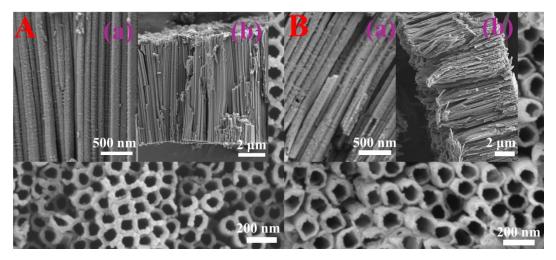
SEM images of the top-surface and cross-section (inset) morphology of TiN NTAs annealed in a tube furnace at 750 °C in NH $_3$ flow for 1 h (A) and 6 h (B).

Figure S2



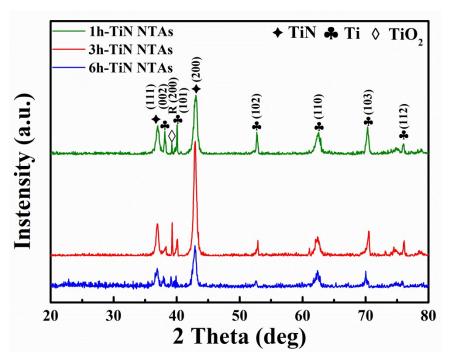
Polarization curves of electrodeposition of Pt species with successive 250 cycles on TiN NTAs treated in NH $_3$ flow for 1 h, 3 h and 6 h. The curves were recorded at a scan rate of 1 mV/s in 0.5 M H $_2$ SO $_4$ at room temperature.

Figure S3



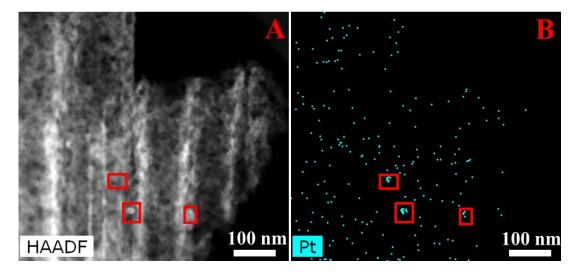
SEM images of the top-surface morphology of $Pt-C/TiO_2$ NTAs (A) and $Pt-TiO_2$ NTAs (B). Insets show cross-section morphology of the materials.

Figure S4



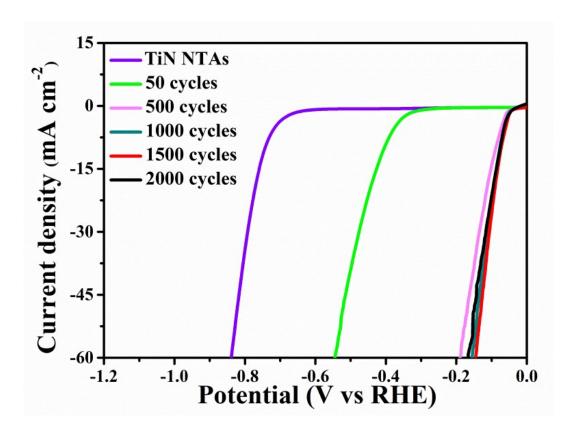
XRD patterns of TiN NTAs annealed in a tube furnace at 750 °C in NH_3 flow for 1 h, 3 h and 6 h, where R means rutile.

Figure S5



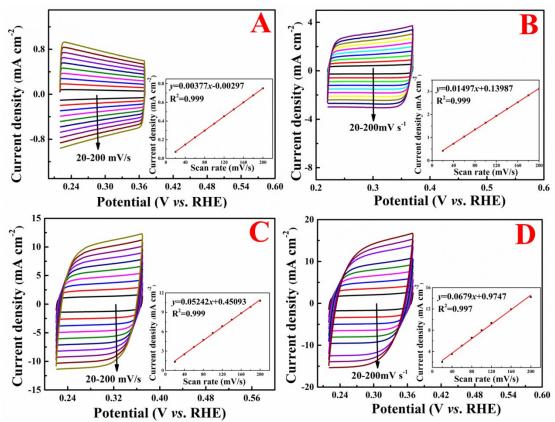
(A) TEM image of multiple nanotubes of Pt-TiN NTAs and corresponding platinum element mapping image (B). The boxes refer to the platinum particles.

Figure S6



Polarization curves of Pt-TiN NTAs with different numbers of electrochemical cycles. The curves were recorded at a scan rate of 1 mV/s in $0.5~M~H_2SO_4$ at room temperature.

Figure S7



CV curves of TiO_2 NTAs (A), Pt-C/ TiO_2 NTAs (B), TiN NTAs (C) and Pt-TiN NTAs (D) at varying rates from 20 to 200 mV s⁻¹ in 0.5 M H_2SO_4 solution. Insets in the four figures show the linear relationship of the current density variation and scan rates.